

Fire Truck Replacements**FY2003 Request: \$400,000**
Reference No: 33955**AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Equipment**Category:** Health/Safety**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Jeff Jahnke**Election District:** Statewide**Contact Phone:** (907)465-3379**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2002 - 06/30/2005**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This project funds the continued implementation of the Division's five-year fire engine redesign and replacement plan. These are first responder engines and are key to containing 90% of fires at 10 acres or less on lands in "full" and "critical" protection. Fire Engine specifications were last upgraded in 1984. Statewide, the division responds to an average of 400 fires per year with engines, mostly in high-risk urban interface areas. Replacement decreases reliance on old, worn engines in areas where life and property are at risk and is essential to successful initial attack in population centers.

Funding:

	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	Total
Gen Fund	\$400,000	\$280,000	\$250,000				\$930,000
Total:	\$400,000	\$280,000	\$250,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$930,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phased Project	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going Project
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Total Operating Impact:	0	0
One-Time Startup Costs:	0	
Additional Estimated Annual O&M:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

SLA01/CH61 - \$100,000

SLA00/CH135 - \$175,000

Fire Truck Replacements

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This project will purchase two Type-3 wildland fire engines as part of the five-year engine replacement program. DOF's engines are critical to successful initial attack in the urban interface areas and reliance on our current aging fleet is problematic. DOT-PF equipment funding replaced nine of eighteen engines and is depleted. An FY01 CIP replaced two engines, one Type-3 and one Type-6. An FY02 CIP will replace one Type-6 engine. These engines are first response equipment that could make the difference between successful initial attack and a large, costly project fire in populated areas.

Project Benefits:

Forestry fire engines are first responders to urban/wildland interface fires in densely populated areas such as the Anchorage hillside, Kenai Peninsula Borough and the Fairbanks North Star Borough, all within the Division of Forestry wildland fire protection responsibility. Providing reliable, modern engines will increase the ability to respond quickly and effectively to fire starts, preventing large, costly fires. Maintenance costs on outdated equipment increase proportionately to age and use. In working with or directly in support of local fire departments, the cooperative effort benefits the public with improved public safety, reduced costs, and successful engine response to fire.

Projected Revenue to the State:

The project does not directly raise revenue; however, by helping to keep fires small it reduces fire suppression costs and reduces destruction of natural resources, public facilities, and private property.

Project Support:

Supported by the Alaska State Fire Chiefs Association, Interior Fire Chiefs Association, Kenai Peninsula and Mat/Su Borough, 56 local fire departments and the general public who receive the benefit of increased fire protection.

Project Opposition:

None known or anticipated.

Project History:

DOT is currently tasked with purchase and maintenance of Forestry vehicles. The Division pays replacement costs on a monthly basis at a rate equal to the purchase price. As we look to replace vehicles, new vehicles are considerably more expensive than the replacement dollars accumulated. Forestry is upgrading engines to meet standards established by National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) and the National Wildland Coordinating Group (NWCG) regarding fire apparatus.

Eleven of the 18 engines in the project have been replaced which has exhausted available replacement funding. The FY02 CIP will replace one Type-6 engine. This CIP request will continue the replacement process by obtaining two Type-3 engines.

Alternative Approaches/Financing Considered:

Continued use of existing engines run the risk of equipment failure that could result in a large fire in a populated area. No other funding sources are available.

Annual Operating and Maintenance Costs:

Operating and maintenance costs will be borne by existing operating budgets once this project brings vehicles and equipment up to standards.

Specific Spending Detail:

73000 - \$400.0 Purchase of fire engines.